

Appl. No. 09/778,652  
Atty. Docket No. 9116-392 (P&G Case 8435L)  
Amdt. Dated 11/ 10 /2004  
Reply to Office Action of 07/20/2004  
Customer No. 27752

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Noninvasive methods and apparatus for monitoring at least one hair characteristic on a human or animal comprise magnifying a predetermined skin area having reference indicia to provide a first magnified image. After a predetermined time period, the predetermined skin area is magnified again to provide a second magnified image. The reference indicium allows for successive monitoring of the same area.